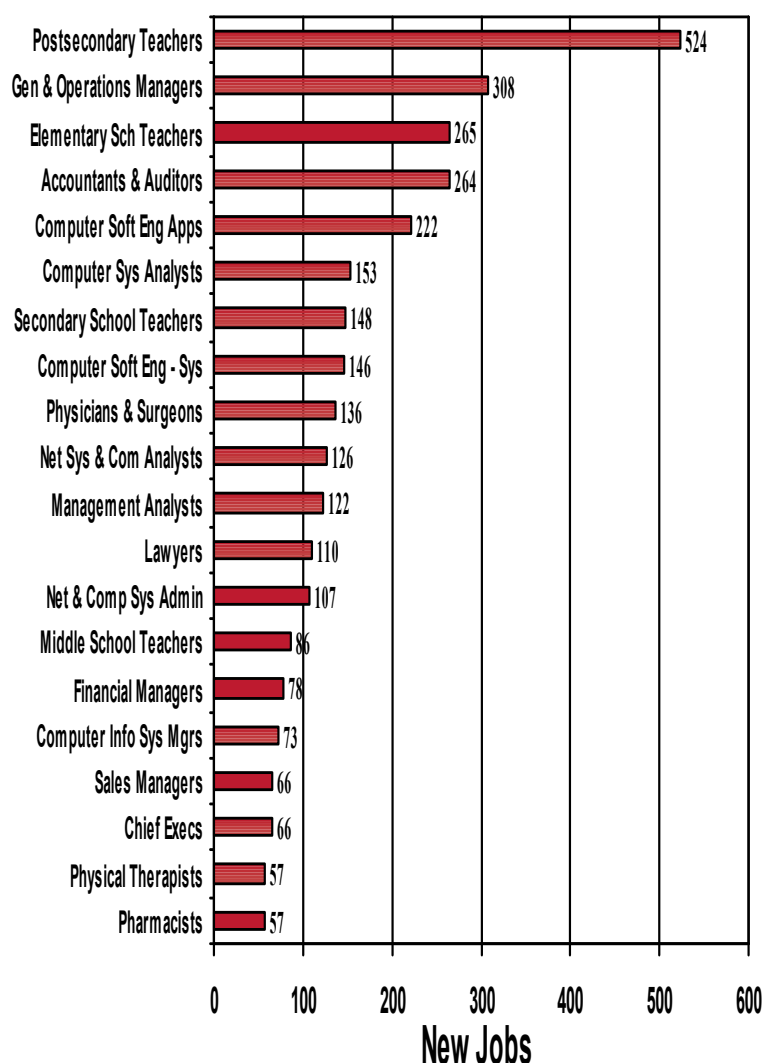


CLASS OF 2006

More?

<http://careers.utah.gov/>
<http://www.bls.gov/opub/ooq/ooqhome.htm>
<http://www.naceweb.org/press/display.asp?year=&prid=226>
http://www.utahsbr.edu/prospective_students/institutions.htm
<http://www.commerce.utah.gov/dcp/education/proprietaryschools.html>

Most New Jobs, Highest Paying*
Bachelor's or Higher Degree, U.S. 2004 - 2014



*Annual Earnings over \$43,605
Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bur of Labor Statistics, Occupational Outlook Quarterly, Winter 2005-2006

According to a national survey, employers are going to be hiring more grads this year than in past years. Good news: The National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) says that employers expect to hire 14.5 percent more new college grads in 2005-2006 than they hired the previous year. The job market for new grads has been improving since the depths of the recession in 2002 when employers were planning to hire fewer workers with college degrees than in previous years.

According to the survey, companies want students with degrees in business, engineering, and computer-related disciplines. These findings are backed up by the overall performance of the economy. When the economy is growing, more jobs will be created for all types of workers, including those with college degrees.

Cold Hard Fact #1:

A Degree Is No Guarantee of the Good Life
Not to burst your bubble, but the fact is that some degrees are in demand more than others; and when considered "in demand" these jobs can, and do, command more pay. In general, a college degree is a very good thing. Education is always a plus. An educated workforce empowers a more productive and innovative economy. This may sound like so much "fluff" when all you want to know is "What do I get for at least 4 years of effort and sacrifice, a pat on the back for a job well done?" Well for new grads, the reward is getting a job and moving on with their careers, and especially enjoying some of that new-found wealth. That is the upside to the meager existence of being a poor college student.

Cold Hard Fact #2:


You may have to move out of state to find that "great" job.

A word to the wise: You may have to relocate to accept that ideal job. This is very important. Although many jobs for college grads will be right here in the Beehive State, many more will be out-of-state. The Utah economy accounts for less than one percent of the total number of employers in the U.S. and also less than one percent of total jobs in the country. That's why you may have to relocate.

Things are looking good!

Best Prospects for College Grads

The Bureau of Labor Statistics says in its just-released 2004-2014 occupational projections that half of the 30 fastest-growing occupations will be for jobs that call for at least a Bachelor's degree. Also, about 30 percent of all job openings during the 10-year period will be for college-trained workers. The top five occupations calling for at least a Bachelor's degree with the most job openings are general managers, elementary school teachers, accountants, computer software engineers (applications), and computer systems analysts.

For the nation, and all of you grads are in a national—if not international—job market, the chart shows the top 20 occupations calling for a Bachelor's or higher degree also pay in the top one-fourth of the wages of all workers. 

A Note From the Hill...

Outlook for U of U grads in May

During the 2005-2006 academic year, the University of Utah Career Services office had more job postings and employer participation at our career fairs than in recent years. This suggests that our 2006 graduates will have more employment opportunities to consider at graduation. Government recruiting also has seen higher activity, with starting salaries comparable to our overall average salary offers, and good promotional opportunities with high expectations of job security.

Also, increasingly, students recognize the importance and need for internships and relevant volunteer experiences. These opportunities lead to better offers and help students make better career decisions. Internships provide experience that employers value when deciding who to hire among competing candidates, especially in health, business, engineering, and communications.

by Dana Sowby, Associate Director of Career Services, University of Utah

